



United Nations Development Programme

PRESS RELEASE

Parliament's Training Centre Opened

Tbilisi, 17 June 2005 – Georgia's Parliament stepped into a new era with the opening of a Training Centre by Parliament Speaker Nino Burjanadze, UNDP Resident Representative Lance Clark, Head of the EC Delegation Torben Holtze, MPs, and other officials offering training to Members of Parliament and the staff of the Parliament Secretariat on issues related to their roles and responsibilities as well as professional skills development.

Established within a framework of the EU RRM/UNDP Project "Strengthening Effectiveness and Transparency of the Parliament of Georgia", the 36-month project promises to improve the effectiveness of Parliament and the law making process and to strengthen public management skills and capabilities.

The project is an example of cost effective, targeted action to increase citizen participation in development processes, particularly in law-making and to promote public awareness of government services and information available online. Both transparency and accountability, which the project is seeking to enhance, are two key pillars of good democratic governance.

In her speech at the official opening ceremony of the Training Centre on Thursday, Speaker of the Parliament Nino Burjanadze called the project a tangible contribution towards strengthening professional and technical skills of the civil servants, enhancing transparency and responsiveness of the parliamentary processes. She said that from September the work of the Parliament would be more effective.

Experienced trainers, professors, national and international experts in computer science, public administration, management, public relations, human resources and other spheres will be invited from the local and foreign universities and research centres to conduct trainings. Advanced methodology and e-tools will be used to provide training courses and sessions that will increase the capacity of the parliamentary bodies to exercise accountable and efficient public management.

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